

## **Independent Book Reactions – First Quarter**

- ✓ Every quarter you will be asked to read a minimum of three books independently and complete a book reaction for each book. Any book beyond the three requirements does not need a book reaction completed.
- ✓ Each quarter the requirements and book reaction choices will change.
- ✓ You will keep a reading log to show your progress throughout the quarter.
- ✓ As a general guideline to maintain grade level performance, you should be reading independently for 120 minutes each week.
- ✓ The books you select must be approved by your teacher and should be at the “just right” reading level.

Listed below are general expectations for all types of book reactions:

- Remember the purpose of a book reaction is to reflect on the book you read.
- Your reactions should be thoughtful and include 6-12 ideas and detailed examples from the reading.
- Your reaction should be in paragraph form, on a graphic organizer, or a visual combined with a written explanation.
- An acceptable reaction can usually be completed in 30-45 minutes.
- Reactions should be neat in appearance, spell checked, and generally free of capitalization and punctuation errors.
- To help record and monitor your progress, please include the following in your reaction:
  - Your name
  - Book title
  - Author
  - Type of book (choice, award, genre study, author selection, etc.)
  - Identify which reaction you are completing

### **First Quarter Requirements**

**#1 Free Choice - due Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup>**

**#2 Your title choice from the realistic fiction genre  
- due Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>**

**#3 Award winning book - due Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>**

## Independent Book Reaction #1 - Due Date Friday 9/18/09

*The book you select for this reaction is a free choice. You can select any genre or title you want as long as it is at your "just right" reading level or above and is approved by your teacher for content. Listed below are the possible choices for your first book reaction. Select the one you feel is most appropriate for your book selection.*

1 Write an opinion about something related to the book. You need to support your opinion with several ideas. You also need to include examples with page numbers from the book. Opinions are examples of critical thinking because when you give an opinion, you are making a judgment about something. Here are some ideas of things you can make your judgment about: **a character and the role they play in the story, how or why a character changes, the relationship between characters, an event or topic in the book, the author's style of writing, the ending of the book, a characters actions or reactions to an event in the book.** If you have another idea, feel free to discuss it with your teacher.

2 Tell about how the book might have been changed in some way. Again, you might write about how you would **change a character, a setting, a particular event, or the ending.** You must tell WHY you would change the book. This is another example of critical thinking because you are making a judgment about how the book could have been better. You do not need to rewrite the story just explain in detail what you would change.

3 Tell how a character, an event, or a setting made you feel. Be sure to tell HOW and/or WHY. Use examples/quotes with page numbers from the book to tell how the author created a feeling for you. This is an example of interpretive thinking because you are working with the author's ideas in a new or different way of your own.

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*The following choices use pictures, maps, diagrams or other visualizations that require a written explanation. We know that good readers create mental pictures in their minds as they read. These reactions require that the visualization you use be one that YOU created in your mind as you read. This is not to be a visualization that appeared in the book that you copied. Book reactions that use mental pictures and words are examples of interpretive thinking because you work with the author's ideas in new and different ways.*

4 Draw a picture of how you visualized an event, a setting, or a character in the story. Use 6-12 sentences to tell about the mental picture you chose to draw. Be sure to tell why you chose to draw your picture. Use examples from the book to tell how the author's words created a mental picture for you.

5 Draw a map related to the book. Include a key with symbols. Use 6-12 sentences to tell about your map. Be sure to explain why you chose to create a map. Be sure also to explain how the map is related to the book and why it is important. Use examples from the book to tell how the author created a mental map for you as you read.

6 Draw a diagram of something from the book. Label important parts. Use 6-12 sentences to tell about the diagram. Be sure to explain why you chose to create that particular diagram. Be sure also to explain how the diagram is related to the book and why it is important. Use examples from the book to tell how the author created a mental diagram for you as you read.